

VZCZCXRO3006
OO RUEHDBU RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHROV RUEHSR
DE RUEHFR #0516 0401033
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 091033Z FEB 07
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4809
INFO RUEHKK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1140

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 000516

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/09/2017
TAGS: [FR](#) [IS](#) [KDEM](#) [KPAL](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#)
SUBJECT: FRENCH WELCOME FORMATION OF PALESTINIAN UNITY
GOVERNMENT

REF: A. STATE 16453

[1](#)B. WALLER-SES-O-SWO E-MAIL OF FEB 9

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Josiah Rosenblatt, reasons
1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) Poloff delivered reftel points on February 9 to Herv
Besancenot, MFA DAS-equivalent for the Levant. Besancenot
said that the MFA was finalizing a statement that would be
put out later that same day, possibly by FM Douste-Blazy
himself. The statement would welcome the formation of the
NUG, express appreciation for the role played by Saudi King
Abdallah, express hope that this agreement will put an end to
internecine Palestinian violence, note that the NUG,s
political platform includes respect for international law and
agreements signed between Israel and the PLO -- calling that
respect "a step in the right direction" to meeting the
expectations of the international community, and would
conclude by saying that the NUG should be encouraged and
supported by the international community.

(C) Besancenot added that the French remain "prudent" and
would pay careful attention to PM Haniyeh,s progress in
forming a new cabinet in accordance with President Abbas,
instructions. The French have not yet made a decision on
entering into direct political contact with the NUG, or on
offering direct budgetary aid, but a gesture along those
lines would be made in the coming weeks if they see evidence
that formation of the NUG moves forward in a positive
direction. "I know we're not on the same wavelength with you
on this, but it's important to avoid giving a negative
reaction -- this (announcement of the NUG) is excellent
news," said Besancenot, who criticized the Israelis for
"shooting without thinking" by greeting the news with
insistence on explicit acceptance of the Quartet Principles.
Besancenot agreed that the NUG platform, as it currently
stands, "is not enough," but insisted that it is a positive
step and that Hamas "needs to be led to an explicit
recognition of Israel" via a combination of carrots and
sticks -- "not just sticks."

Please visit Paris' Classified Website at:
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/paris/index.cfm>

WHITE